GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1234
ANSWERED ON:27.10.2008
REMUNERATIVE PRICES TO COTTON FARMERS
Naik Shri Shripad Yasso;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton farmers are adversely affected by the abolition of import duty on cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof including details of cotton imported after the abolition of import duty;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a scheme to make the purchase of homegrown/indigenous cotton mandatory by companies to ensure remunerative prices to cotton farmers for their produce; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): The textile mills are importing mostly Extra Long Staple length cotton. For the year 2007-08, the imports of raw cotton is about 6.50 lakh bales and total mill consumption of about 203 lakh bales as per the estimates of Cotton Advisory Board.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise in view of (c) above. However, to ensure remunerative prices to cotton farmers, Government of India has approved higher Minimum Support Prices for cotton for year 2008-09.